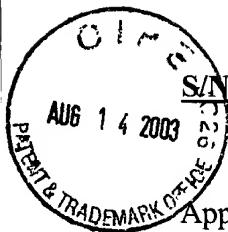


S/N 09/645706



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Keith V. Wood et al.  
Serial No.: 09/645706  
Filed: August 24, 2000  
Title: SYNTHETIC NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULE COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF PREPARATION

Examiner: Rebecca Prouty

Group Art Unit: 1651

Docket No: 341.005US1A

**RECEIVED**

18 2003  
**TECH CENTER 1600/2900**

**PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In accordance with the provision of 37 CFR § 1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a three-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2003, said period of response being extended from May 14, 2003 to August 14, 2003.

**Our check in the amount of \$930.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee.  
Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to deposit Account No. 19-0743.**

Respectfully Submitted

KEITH V. WOOD ET AL.

By their Representatives,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.  
P.O. Box 2938  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 373-6959

Date: August 11, 2003 By: Janet E. Embretson

Janet E. Embretson  
Reg. No: 39,665

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelop addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 11 day of August 2003.

Name: Dawn M. Roote

Signature: Dawn M. Roote